

Lane



Mayor.



THE Right Honourable the LORD MAYOR having a deep Sense of the Duty incumbent upon him, as he is Intrusted with the Chief Magistracy of this CITY, to provide for the strict Observations of the Laws, and the Punishments of Offenders; and in a more especial manner, of such as shall be found offending against the Laws in force, for the suppression of Prophaness and Debauchery: And finding, that notwithstanding Their MAJESTIES Proclamations to enforce the Execution of those Laws, and the Care and Vigilance of several of his Lordship's Predecessors, and of the Court of Aldermen, and other the Magistrates of this City, as well as his own Endeavours since his coming to the Chair, many grievous Vices and Enormities are still publickly committed, and go unpunished, to the great dishonour of Almighty GOD, and the Reproach and Scandal of this City, and the Government thereof.

His Lordship being resolved to use all proper Methods for the more effectual remedying these Disorders, and (as far as in him lies) to procure a thorough Reformation of Manners in all places under his Jurisdiction, hath thought fit (with the Advice of his Brethren the Aldermen) to publish this ORDER; and doth strictly Charge and Require all Constables, Churchwardens, and Overseers of the Poor in their respective Parishes, and all other Officers and Ministers

of Justice within this City and the Liberties thereof, as they tender the Honour of GOD, and the Welfare of this City; That they do in their several Stations apply themselves with all possible diligence to prevent the following Offences; and where that cannot be done, that they do what is in their power to bring the Offenders to condign Punishment.

(a) Prophanation of the LORD's-DAY by Sports and Pastimes.

(b) Prophaness of the LORD's-DAY by Tradesmen, Artificers, Workmen, Labourers and others, Exercising the Works of their Ordinary Calling: Contrary to Law.

(c) By publick Crying, or Exposing to Sale, any Wares, Merchandizes, Fruits, or other Goods.

(d) By Travelling of Drovers, Horse-courlers, Higlers, and Others.

(e) By any person Using or Employing any Wherry, Lighter, or Barge.

(f) By Idleing or Wandring in time of Divine Service.

(g) By continuing in Taverns, Ale-houses, and Coffee-houses, as well out of the time of Divine Service as in, contrary to the Laws in that Case provided.

(h) By Vintners, &c. permitting Tipling in their Houses.

(i) Profane Swearing and Cursing.

(k) Drunkenness.

(l) The keeping or frequenting Houses of Lewdness and Debauchery; or of Unlawful Games; and all other Irregular and Disorderly Practices, punishable by Law.

(a) Punishable by 1 Car. 1. Penalty 3 s. 4 d. Conviction by one Witness, View of one Justice, or the parties Confession. Levied by distress, or in default Stocks three Hours.

(b) Punishable by 29 Car. 2. Penalty 5 s. Conviction by one Witness, view of Justice, or parties Confession. To be Levied by distress, or in default thereof, or in case of Insufficiency, the Offender to be set in the Stocks for two Hours.

(c) Punishable by the same Statute. Penalty, forfeiture of the Goods so Exposed or Cried, on the like Conviction.

(d) Punishable by the same Statute. Penalty, 20 s. to be levied by distress, or in default the Stocks two Hours. Conviction by one Witness, &c.

(e) Punishable by the same Statute. Penalty 5 s. levied by distress, or Stocks two Hours. Conviction by one Witness, Confession, or View of Justice.

(f) Punishable by 1 Eliz. Penalty 12 d. to be levied by the Churchwardens by way of distress upon the Offender's Goods.

(g) Punishable by the several Statutes against Tipling in general, 4 Jac. & 21 Jac. Penalty 3 s. 4 d. Conviction by one Witness, View of one Justice, or Confession of the Offender: Levied by distress, or the Stocks four Hours.

(h) Punishable 1 Jac. & 1 Car. 1. Penalty 10 s. Conviction by two Witnesses. In default of distress the Offender to be Committed to the Common Gaol till the Penalty paid.

(i) Punishable 21 Jac. Penalty 1 s. Conviction by two Witnesses; Hearing of one Justice or Confession. To be levied by distress; or if no distress can be had, to be set in the Stocks three Hours, if the Offender be above 12 year Old; else to be Whipt by the Constable, Parent or Master, in the presence of the Justice.

(k) Punishable by 4 & 21 Jacobi. Penalty 5 s. Conviction by one Witness, View, or Confession; to be levied by distress, or the Stocks for six Hours. For the second Offence, to be bound to the good Behaviour.

(l) Such as keep Houses of Lewdness, Indictable and Finable, and to be bound to the Good Behaviour. Keepers of Gaming-houses, to enter into Recognizance, no longer to suffer such Gaming, 33 Hen. 8. Refractors to such Houses, to be bound with Sureties no more to Play, by the same Statute.

And his Lordship doth hereby declare, That in case the aforesaid Officers, or any of them, shall in contempt of the Oaths they are under, refuse or neglect to do their Duty in the Premises, or shall by partiality, connivance, giving private Notice to Offenders, or any other under-hand Practices, prevent their Discovery or Conviction, the Penalties appointed by the several Laws and Statutes shall be inflicted on them with the utmost Severity.

And for the more effectual Suppressing the Vices afore-mentioned by a general and impartial Punishing of Offenders, His Lordship doth further recommend it to all good Citizens of this City, and others who shall at any time hereafter have knowledge of the Commission of any such Offences, or of the neglect or undue Practices of any Officer, to give timely Notice thereof to his Lordship, or some other of Their MAJESTIES Justices of the Peace within this City; His Lordship being resolved to take care, that all due Encouragement shall be given to such as shall so Inform; and that none shall be suffered to molest or disturb them in their giving Legal Information.

And his Lordship doth likewise hereby Order, That all Constables, Churchwardens, and other Officers in their several Wards and Parishes, do from time to time, every Month, beginning from the 21st Day of December, 1694. bring and deliver to the Aldermen of their respective Wards, a true and perfect Account in Writing of all the Offenders by any of them Discovered or Charged, Prosecuted or Convicted, and their several Offences and the Penalties thereupon levied, and how the same are disposed of; To the end the said Alderman may bring the same before the COURT of Lord Mayor and Aldermen. And to that intent, all and every the Aldermen of the respective Wards are hereby desired and required, to Summon together once every Month all and every the Officers of their several Wards personally to receive from them an Account of their Proceedings concerning the premises.

And, that no Constable, or other Officer may be any ways Discouraged in the lawful, diligent, and vigorous Prosecution of his Duty in the premises, His Lordship doth further declare, That if they, or any of them shall be resisted, vexed, or molested in the Execution of their Offices, they shall be vindicated by the Authority of the COURT of Lord Mayor and Aldermen, and the Offenders prosecuted and punished according to Law.

Goodfellow.